

Fairmont School Children Tell What Industries Mean to The City of Fairmont and Its People

MISS BEERBOWER WINNER OF FIRST PRIZE IN CONTEST

Miss Bachman Second and Miss Satterfield Third in City Competition.

About sixty essays were entered by Fairmont school children in the West Virginia prize contest on the theme, "Fairmont's Industries and What They Mean to the City."

The first prize was carried off by Miss Frances Beerbower, daughter of E. B. Beerbower of Alexander place and a student in the White School. Miss Beerbower showed an excellent understanding of her subject and handled the topic in a masterly manner throughout her entire paper.

Second and third places in the contest were captured by Miss Alice Bachman and Miss Evelyn Satterfield, respectively. Miss Bachman is a daughter of Mrs. N. E. Bachman of Jefferson street and a student in the Miller School. Miss Satterfield is a daughter of W. L. Satterfield of Benoni avenue and attended Butcher School during the last year.

The prize winning essays were as follows:

FIRST PRIZE ESSAY

(By Miss Frances Beerbower)

Fairmont, a small city with a population of 17,800, has many important industries. We have 5,000 men and women employed in this city. By having these industries, it gives us many advantages, and makes Fairmont a better city.

Fairmont has sixteen miles of street car track in the city and supplies power for all the mines between here and Morgantown. All the power for here and Clarksburg and half of the power used in Clarksburg belong to Fairmont.

The Monongahela Glass House employs the greatest number of people. They make glass bottles, jars, and tumblers used as food containers. The Monongahela Glass House ships fifteen carloads of glass a month out of this city. Next is the Owens Bottle Works, the largest bottle factory in the world. It manufactures bottles of all shapes and sizes, used for preserving food. Most of the bottles Heinz's use are made in Fairmont.

The by-product Company manufactures tar, coke and pitch. These products are made from coal. These products are used in Fairmont and they are also shipped to other places.

Another important industry is the Willets Clay Co. It manufactures clay used in the manufacture of bricks. This is of great value to the city.

Hammond Brick Yard, an industry of Fairmont, manufactures bricks. These bricks are used both in Fairmont, and also many other places.

We also have three lumber yards, Kiser's, Dickerson's and the Southern Pine. These lumber yards are well advertised over the world.

The Fairmont Wall Plaster Co. manufactures concrete blocks used in building. They are noted for their help to the city.

Fairmont also has many fine bakeries, which are of great importance to the city. The largest are the Greater Fairmont Bakery and the Model Steam Bakery, though we have several others that are excellent bakeries.

Fairmont owns the Barnestown Woolen Mill, which is of value to the city. It not only supplies Fairmont with its cloth but many other places. It manufactures woolen goods and blankets.

We do not often think when we pick up a Beechnut product, that the container was made in Fairmont. We usually think of it coming from far away. But all of the Beechnut containers are made in Fairmont.

This city also manufactures ice cream. We have the Diamond Ice Cream factory, the Imperial Ice Cream factory and the Robinson Ice Cream factory. This is another of our many important industries.

We also have the brass plant, that manufactures brass and then rolls it into large sheets. Among the things manufactured in Fairmont, the most important are glass, bricks, clay products, mining machinery, wooden and fiber boxes, ice cream, woolen goods, concrete blocks, tar, coke, pitch, bakery products and gas. Fairmont sends products to Canada, Europe and South America.

By having all of these important industries, it gives us the advantage of having a better city. First, it brings the people. Then it gives the people, we will have better street car and train service, because the people will demand it. Then we will have better schools and better streets, better homes and better people. By having these industries, it brings the money to our banks. The banks will have larger deposits. Then the people will have the advantage of borrowing from the banks.

Fairmont has many important industries, and by having these in-

dustries it makes Fairmont a larger and better city.

SECOND PRIZE ESSAY

(By Miss Alice Bachman)

The future and prosperity of a city always depends upon its location, nearness to fuel transportation facilities and its industries. It is because Fairmont has all these things, that makes it one of the largest and most prosperous industrial centers of West Virginia.

Fairmont is a great railroad center having thirty passenger trains daily, which means that in the future more industries will be started, because each day more people are coming to this city, and they will bring more and larger ideas with them and the dreams or larger ideas of these people insure Fairmont of a great future industrial growth, because it is the dreams and ideas of men that make a great city. Not only does it mean the future industrial growth of Fairmont, but it means that Fairmont has excellent transportation routes by which its products can be distributed all over the United States at a very cheap rate. Over three-fifths of Fairmont's manufactured products are exported. During 1920 over 14,000,000 passengers were handled by the Monongahela Power & Railway Company. We are not only fortunate in having the advantage of an excellent railroad system but Fairmont is situated at the head of a navigable river, which can also furnish water power if necessary.

The natural resources and nearness to them, makes Fairmont a great industrial center. Coal is the most important. The coal mines give employment to hundreds of our citizens. Other sources of wealth in or about our city are oil and gas. Gas is very important in heating our homes and running our industrial plants. Some of our gas goes to our neighboring states. For instance, we furnish Pittsburgh with much of our artificial gas. Many men are given employment in these gas plants. Over 4,888,841 tons of coal were shipped out of Marion County during 1920, showing that Fairmont and its districts not only have all the raw material they need but can supply other neighboring cities with some.

If the industries of Fairmont were taken away, it would no longer exist, because over 5,000 men and women are employed in its factories, stores and offices, not including the mines.

The Domestic Coke Corporation uses and produces eighteen cars of coal and 14,000 gallons benzol motor fuel. Over 454,000 steel mine ties, and 3,600 car loads of glassware, were shipped out of Fairmont during 1920. Fairmont is one of the largest glass factories of its kind in the world. Fairmont also has two large planing mills, brick and tile factories, one electric power plant, two ice plants, two printing offices, one plant that puts out a daily paper, and many industries that are too numerous to mention, although very important. All these industries make Fairmont what it is today. Fairmont is also dependent on its industries, as a person is on food for life.

Our city is backed by the very best business and professional men of the day, that can be found anywhere, men who know how to operate these industries and make them what they should be. If Fairmont's industries were compared with other cities of great size we would see that Fairmont would rank not only the best industrial center, but the most helpful to its people.

THIRD PRIZE ESSAY

(By Miss Evelyn Satterfield)

Industries mean almost everything to a city. In Fairmont, we have the following industries: (1) Monongahela Glass, (2) Helmick Foundry which especially manufactures coal cars and all equipments for coal mines, (3) the Fairmont Mining Machinery Co., which supplies us with all we need in the way of machinery for our mines, (4) the Barnesville Woolen Mills, (5) the Willets Clay products plant, (6) the brick block plant, (7) the Ward cement plant, (8) the Brass plant or the Domestic Coke Corporation, or by-products plant, (10) the wall plaster concern, (11) the Mid-West Box Co., (12) the Fairmont Milling and Graining Co.

These are only a few of the many industries carried on in Fairmont.

And now I will try to explain what they mean to the city.

First they bring money to a city, then that money brings more industries. Then when the industries come, most of the workmen have families. Then that increases the population.

There are 5,000 men employed in the different industries in Fairmont, not counting the Consolidation Coal Co.

Ten or twelve thousand people have come to Fairmont here, there and everywhere. There are about 20,000 people in Fairmont today and the population is increasing all the time.

Industries build up commerce and help the importing and exporting of our city.

We people in Fairmont have several advantages. We have a good railroad and a river running right through our town. The railroad industry has made it possible for many cities farther away than it did not have the railroads. It was necessary to have some way besides on water to ship the goods so the railroad came to the rescue. Industries and commerce make great cities. Whenever you read about any city of any great size you always see something of the industries carried on there.

There is nothing to make a community grow unless it has some industries. Industries bring more people, make a better city and bring about improvements of all kinds and make a demand for parks, schools, churches, paved streets, and you can have all these if you have industries in your city. Then the workman can enjoy things more.

If you have a well established industry it usually pays well. If the company's money is invested here the company nine times out of ten will stay. The people can depend on the firm and it makes the city grow.

We have all the industries here and make all the things that some of the large cities have and make industries that are already here have made Fairmont a much better city than it used to be.

When you have industries established in your city and they are good ones, you may be sure that it will make your city grow.

Twenty years ago, Fairmont had a population of about 5,000 people. If the industries had not come, Fairmont would have about 6,000 or 7,000 people by now. So you see, a city can never grow very much unless you have industries.

Now I will sum up some of the things that industries mean to the city of Fairmont:

Improvements, amusements, better population, schools, commerce, wealthy city, better pay, sanitary railroads, better equipments, churches, better buildings.

EAST SIDE ESSAY AWARD CAPTURED BY MISS MORRIS

Honors Are Won Also by Louise Fletcher and Mary Satterfield.

Nearly sixty-five essays in all were submitted by students in the East Side graded school in The West Virginian's prize contest on the subject, "Fairmont's Industries and What They Mean to the City."

First honors went to Miss Marguerite Morris, of State street. She was a student in the Central School during the last year. Miss Morris is to be congratulated on the skill with which she presented her ideas. Her paper shows that deep study had been made in preparation for writing the essay and that she was accurate as to information and conservative as to predictions.

Second prize went to Miss Louise Fletcher, and third prize to Miss Mary Satterfield, both of the Central School, also Miss Fletcher is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fletcher of Barnes street. Miss Satterfield is a daughter of Lake Satterfield of Market street.

The prize-winning essay are as follows:

FIRST PRIZE ESSAY

(By Miss Marguerite Morris)

Fairmont is a large industrial center. It has many large factories which are very important and give employment to many people of this community. It is a good trading center for the northern part of this state and is the county seat of Marion County.

One of Fairmont's largest and most important industries is coal. Companies operating here give employment to many people. The mines and in the offices. The most of the coal mined here is bituminous and is used for fuel in many homes and some is shipped from here to other states and countries.

The glass factories of this city play an important part in the industrial trade. The Owens Bottle Works and the Monongahela Glass Co. are the most important ones. Much fine glassware and many bottles are made in these factories which we use here in our own city and many are shipped away. These factories employ many people in the different departments of the building. Usually in normal times these factories ship out about twenty carloads a day.

Fairmont has very good means of travel. This city has two large railroad lines, one traction company and a large power plant on the outskirts of the city. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad and the Monongahela Railroad are the two large railroads running through this city. The Monongahela Power & Railway Co. is used in this city and by means of travel on this company's cars, we can travel faster and safer. The large power plant which belongs to this city but is located at Rivesville, is very useful for it supplies electricity for this city and many of our neighboring cities.

The machine and railroad shops are very useful. The men who are employed here are good mechanics. They make new machinery and help to repair old machinery which has been broken. There are many men who work here and they are skilled in their line of work. These shops help the community by giving employment to many men and helping industrial trade.

Any good eye can see that the citizens of Fairmont have good homes and that there are many beautiful buildings. Some of the large companies which supply the material for these buildings are: The Southern Pine Lumber Co., Dickerson Lumber Co., Kiser & Bro. Co., Fairmont Wall Plaster Co., and the May Cement Block Co. These companies furnish material without which citizens would find it hard to live as we build our homes, churches and schools from these materials. They help the community by furnishing modern equipments for building homes and other buildings which we need.

Fairmont can proudly say that it owns two large printing companies. The West Virginian, which is the largest, and the Fairmont Times. After the day's labor and toil is over, one is only too glad to sit down and pick up The West Virginian. These companies have newsboys to deliver to homes and they also give a supper for the boys once annually. These news companies help the community by giving the citizens the daily news of current events. They also print invitations, wedding cards and many other things.

In summing up the industries of this city, one can see that you could easily write a whole book on them. Some of the smaller ones which play an important part in helping to build up this city in the industrial trade are the ice and ice cream companies. These concerns send out pure ice and ice cream which we all enjoy in summer.

The mercantile industry has a honored place in this city's industrial center of trade. There are many stores where we pur-

MARION HARDWARE CO. IN BIG HOME

No review of the commercial development of Fairmont in the last quarter of a century would be complete without reference to the part the Marion Hardware Co. incorporated, has played in the development of the city as the most important trading center in this section of West Virginia.

Known for the superiority of its stock of shelf and heavy hardware, as well as paints, oils, varnishes, etc., the company occupies two floors of a large building having in all some 6,000 square feet of floor space.

Among its special lines is building supplies in which it does a large business, furnishing many of the largest contractors in this section with material, tools, etc.

All of its stock is standard trademark goods of the best quality. The company has the reputation of giving the highest degree of satisfaction.

Eight employees are constantly on the alert with courteous, accommodating service and the business of the concern is one of Fairmont's principal assets.

C. W. Evans, one of the leading insurance men in this section is president of the company. S. Ray Holbert, long prominent in the building trade, is vice president. C. B. Glascock, secretary, is a native of West Virginia, and a Mason; L. C. Boice, treasurer, is a Knight of Pythias and a steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and F. R. Clelland, manager, is a Mason and widely known in the local and Northern West Virginia.

BECKMAN AND CO. HAVE FINE DEPARTMENT STORE

One of Fairmont's well known business men, who, for nearly a quarter of a century has been identified with the leading mercantile element of the city is J. H. Beckman who is now at the head of J. H. Beckman & Co., whose handsome and well stocked store is located at 401 Madison street.

This store is one of the most popular business establishments in the city and numbers among its patrons the most discriminating shoppers and most attractively dressed women. Essentially it is a store of fine goods of other character, carried in the large and complete stock cause it to be also popular with those who seek to make their homes more comfortable and attractive. In this connection a fine and well chosen line of curtains, draperies of all descriptions and floor coverings are carried, a department being devoted to the latter.

But the Beckman store specializes in those things which delight the ladies—gloves, hosiery, laces, embroideries, silken things, corsets and all other articles that contribute to the wardrobe of the best dressed women of the city.

The present business has been in operation for six years. The store has 3,000 square feet of floor space, handsome show windows, always beautifully dressed, and its appointments, equipment and fixtures are of the most attractive.

J. H. Beckman is a native of Maryland who came here 24 years ago and embarked in the mercantile business. He is progressive, energetic and forward looking at all times.

He is a member of the leading business organizations of the city.

The largest and most powerful sarchlight in the world, having 1,200,000,000 candle power has just been completed.

chase our clothing and other necessities.

The Domestic Coke Co. of this city furnishes coal and coke fertilizer and salt. It is an industry which is very useful to our citizens. The Willets Co. makes pottery and tile. This city is well supplied with garages which afford a place where cars can be repaired, bought, stored and the accessories can be purchased. Fairmont's bakeries play an important part in the industry subject. They supply cakes, pies, bread and many other pastries. The goods made at the woolen mill just outside this city are sent to New York City. This factory makes men's suits and manufactures woolen goods. The telephone company is important because we use the telephone. To call our neighbors, the storekeeper and the doctor and altogether this little instrument, the telephone, is very useful. Without it we would find it very hard to get along. The milling and Times are very important. Here much feed is purchased for our stock and the farmers are very grateful that Fairmont has such companies. The oil companies supply oil for this and many other cities, which do not have companies of their own.

Through the establishment of these industries Fairmont has become one of the leading industrial centers of this state. The citizens are enabled to have many pleasures which had these industries not become so greatly developed, would not have enjoyed.

SECOND PRIZE ESSAY

(By Miss Louise Fletcher)

The city of Fairmont has a population of more than 18,000 people of which about one half are of the working class. These people must be supported and Fairmont is facing the most wonderful prosperity that is possible for any city.

Through the active and earnest efforts of leading citizens large and important manufacturing enterprises are being built in this fertile valley. Dreams of many citizens are about to be realized that they are in possession of a great industrial center.

Thousands of satisfied laboring men find employment here at normal times. Fairmont is now one of the leading and largest cities in Northern West Virginia.

Fairmont is the home of the Consolidation Coal Co., one of the largest bituminous coal corporations in the world. This coal company employs several thousand people when they are working full. The coal mined is not only sold all over the United States and Canada, but foreign parts as well. Many thousands of tons of coal are mined. Large factories buy coal with which power it runs large machines.

This industry has great effects on other industries. Many times the pay roll runs over \$100,000, is distributed among our communities. The miners are good citizens of our city and have built many fine homes.

The manufacture of glass forms a most important part in the industries. There are five or more which are the Owens Bottle Works, Monongahela Glass, Columbia, Imperial and Window Glass of which Owens is the largest. About 2,000 people are employed in this industry. They have shipped on an average twenty cars a day. Owens put out 240 tons of bottles every 24 hours and each machine makes 1,800 an hour. They have gas and machines which make gas and electricity. These factories have built homes and have an insurance to make their employees comfortable.

Any industrial center would require building material and equipment with which to build homes and other structures. Fairmont has these. Several of the companies are the Fairmont Wall Plaster, Kiser and Brothers Co., Dickerson Lumber Co., and Southern Pine. They furnish material with which many fine homes are built. By having these companies Fairmont is enabled to take care of her population.

In order to develop a large city

we must have transportation. We have two railroads and one traction company.

The railroad facilities consist of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, the Monongahela River Railroad and the Monongahela Valley Traction Co. Many people come and go through Fairmont daily. The traction lines ship products to and from our industries. Transportation is required in every industrial center. We depend upon the Rivesville power plant for our street lights. They furnish electricity for Parkersburg, Morgantown, Clarksburg and Marietta. This power plant is the third largest in the United States.

The machine and railroad shops are important because they repair and make any machines in a very short time. There are skilled machinists employed here. People employed depends on machines, engines to repair or make.

There are two daily newspapers printed in Fairmont. They are The West Virginian and the Fairmont Times. In 1912 the Fairmont Times employed five men while in 1914 The West Virginian employed about six. Now almost 100 are employed in the offices only. Both papers have late model presses and the West Virginian is later equipped than The Times. The Fairmont Times has a Christmas Fund and they are taking care of Rosa Sacola, the armless girl. The West Virginian takes care of its poor boys and gives them a treat often. The farmers receive a weekly paper from The West Virginian. These papers have the fastest single-plate presses in this country. About 18,000 papers are put out an hour by the papers. The West Virginian have been remodeling the second floor of their building. The people of Fairmont are enjoying the news and are well informed of the outside world.

There are many smaller industries which employ many people. The ice companies put out pure ice which is much enjoyed in the summer. We have many equipped stores which furnish goods with many fresh vegetables. The Domestic Coke Corporation puts many by-products out. The Willets Co. manufactures tile, bricks and pottery. There are many well equipped stores in Fairmont that sell gasoline, oils and accessories, tires, tubes, trucks and automobiles. The Bell Telephone Co. gives good service to Fairmont by ways of communications. These industries employ several hundred people.

Several years ago a town by the name of Middletown was changed to Fairmont. This was a good name for a flourishing city because it is half way between Clarksburg and Morgantown. The name Fairmont was chosen because of its location on high hills with such a beautiful outlook.

Fairmont is rapidly growing and people should take the forward step and co-operate whole heartedly with her leading citizens who are responsible for this great industrial movement. They should have our support.

THIRD PRIZE ESSAY

(By Miss Mary Satterfield)

The industries of Fairmont are very important. They give employment to hundreds of persons of Fairmont and neighboring cities. They help increase the population and wealth of the city, by persons coming from other cities for employment. In this way the people have money and can enjoy themselves. I will only discuss a few of the leading ones for if I should write about them all it would almost require the writing of a book.

One of the leading industries of Fairmont are the coal companies. The mines are on the outskirts of the city and the offices are in the city. The coal industry employs several hundreds of persons. There are many tons of coal mined each day, much of which is used by the people of Fairmont and many carloads are sent to other states and some is even sent to foreign countries. The coal industry helps increase the population and wealth of the city, for not only are hundreds of people of this city employed but also many from all parts of the country. If it

were not for this industry many of our other industries would not be so important for much of the coal is used as fuel to run factories.

This industry helps make Fairmont one of the leading industrial centers of the northern part of this state.

Another important industry of this city is the glass factories. Two of the most important are the Owens Bottle Works and the Monongahela Glass House. The glass factory employs about 1,000 men at normal times, but about 500 or 600 persons at the present time. These factories put out thousands of the best glasses, cut glass and different articles, each day which are sent to all parts of the country.

What would the people of this city do if it were not for the glass and street cars? The railroads and the Monongahela Power & Railway Co. plays an important part in the life of the people of Fairmont and vicinity. There are two railroads, the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania and Lake Erie. These trains will take you almost anywhere you wish to go to all parts of Fairmont and to cities about twenty five miles distant. The power plant which is located at Rivesville supplies the city with electricity and also other cities. If it were not for these things we would have no way to travel and we would have no lights or modern conveniences. We would have to run or heat them, therefore these industries are very important.

The railroad and machine shops play an important part in the industries of Fairmont. Many people are employed. Any one who wishes it may go to the machine shops and learn to be an expert mechanic. These shops make and repair engines and different things for railroads. This industry helps the community by employing men and repairing and making things for railroads so they may be in repair and people can travel.

The lumber yards and planing mills are a very important industry. They employ many men, and furnish lumber so the people of Fairmont may have beautiful homes and buildings. Some of the companies are Southern Pine Lumber Co., Dickerson Lumber Co., Kiser and Bro. Co., Fairmont Wall Plaster Co., May Cement Block Co.

The newspapers and printing companies play an important part in the lives of the people of Fairmont and surrounding cities. There are two daily papers, The West Virginian, the evening

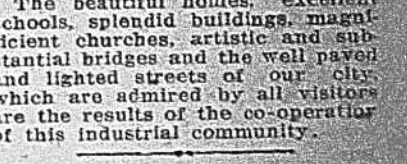
paper, which furnishes people with reading after the day's work. It often has suppers for their boys.

The Fairmont Times is the morning paper. It has a Times Fund. The newspaper companies put out many papers each day and employ many boys. There are many papers sent to surrounding cities.

Other important industries are the ice and ice cream companies. The ice company furnishes pure ice to the people, which is of value in keeping food and water cool and pure, and to use in cases of sickness. The ice cream companies furnish pure ice cream, of all kinds. The mercantile industry is very large. There are many grocery and dry goods stores in Fairmont. The garages of Fairmont are important. They furnish places where cars can be repaired. When their cars are in repair people can enjoy themselves. Bakeries are another important industry. Here you may buy any baked article you want. This saves lots of work in the summer when it is too hot to bake. We could not get along very well without the telephone company. We can call any where or any time with the phone. The milling and feed company furnishes feed. The carriage works repair carriages. The oil company is very important. It sells oil to people of this city and many outsiders.

The beautiful homes, excellent schools, splendid buildings, magnificent churches, art galleries, suburban bridges and the well paved and lighted streets of our city, which are admired by all visitors are the results of the co-operation of this industrial community.

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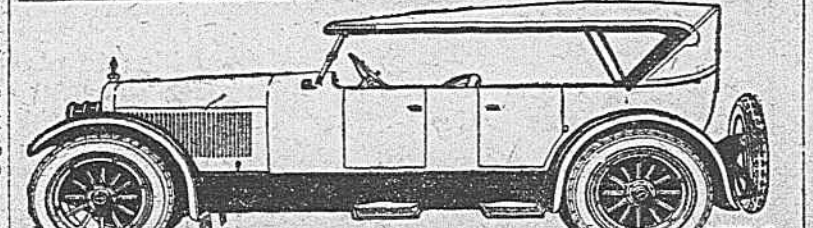
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